

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A drum type washing machine, comprising:
 - a tub provided in a cabinet and configured to receive washing fluid;
 - a drum rotatably installed in the tub, wherein the drum includes an opening that faces a front of the cabinet so as to receive laundry items therethrough;
 - at least one ceramic piece; and
 - at least one corresponding ceramic receiver provided on an inner surface of the drum and extending along an axial direction of the drum, wherein each ceramic receiver is configured to receive the at least one ceramic piece therein, and wherein each ceramic receiver comprises:
 - a housing having a first, open side ~~which is configured to face a corresponding portion of the inner surface of the drum and to receive the at least one ceramic piece therein,~~ and a second, circumferential side including a plurality of openings formed therein, wherein a peripheral edge of the first, open side of the housing is configured to be coupled to the inner surface of the drum, and wherein the housing so coupled to the drum is configured to lift laundry items in the drum as the drum rotates; and

a cover positioned between the first, open side of the housing and the inner surface of the drum, wherein the cover comprises a first side configured to ~~cover~~ extend across the first, open side of the housing, and a second side comprising a plurality of ribs that extend outward from the second side of the cover to the inner surface of the drum so as to maintain a position of the cover relative to the first, open side of the housing.

2. (Previously Presented) The drum type washing machine as claimed in claim 1, wherein the at least one ceramic receiver extends along an inner circumference of the drum, in an axial direction of the drum.

3. (Currently Amended) The drum type washing machine as claimed in claim 2, wherein a cross section of the at least one ceramic receiver is substantially semi-circular, and wherein a curved portion of the at least one ceramic receiver extends toward a rotational center of the drum, and the peripheral edge of the first, open side of the housing comprises a flat portion of the at least one ceramic receiver~~that~~ is affixed to the inner surface of the drum.

4. (Currently Amended) The drum type washing machine as claimed in claim 2, wherein ~~a~~the housing of the at least one ceramic receiver is formed long in the axial direction of the drum.

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Previously Presented) The drum type washing machine as claimed in claim 1, wherein the at least one ceramic receiver comprises a plurality of ceramic receivers each with a housing which extends in an axial direction of the drum, wherein the ceramic receivers are positioned along a circumferential direction of the drum at a predetermined interval from each other.

7. (Currently Amended) The drum type washing machine as claimed in claim 1, wherein the housing is substantially semi-circular, and wherein a curved portion of the housing extends toward a rotational center of the drum, and wherein the open side of the housing ~~facing~~ faces the inner surface of the drum and is configured to be covered by the cover such that the cover is disposed between the housing and the drum and closely positioned against the inside of the drum.

8. (Previously Presented) The drum type washing machine as claimed in claim 1, wherein a plurality of coupling holes are formed in the inner surface of the drum, and wherein the housing comprises a corresponding plurality of hooks protruding from a side of the housing so as to be fitted to respective coupling holes.

9. (Previously Presented) The drum type washing machine as claimed in claim 8, wherein the plurality of hooks are built as a single body with the housing.

10. (Currently Amended) The drum type washing machine as claimed in claim 1, wherein a guide groove is formed at a rim of the first, open surface-side of the housing along an axial direction of the drum, and wherein the cover is configured to be inserted in the guide groove so as to couple the cover to the housing.

11. (Previously Presented) The drum type washing machine as claimed in claim 10, wherein the cover is built as a single body with the drum.

12. (Currently Amended) The drum type washing machine as claimed in claim 1, wherein ~~the cover comprises a~~ proximal end of each of the plurality of reinforcement ribs ~~which protrude from the cover toward~~ contact a corresponding portion of the inner surface of the drum.

13. (Previously Presented) The drum type washing machine as claimed in claim 1, wherein the at least one ceramic piece includes silicon oxide.

14. (Previously Presented) The drum type washing machine as claimed in claim 1, wherein the at least one ceramic piece includes aluminum oxide.

15. (Previously Presented) The drum type washing machine as claimed in claim 1, wherein the at least one ceramic piece is a sintered body including silicon oxide and aluminum oxide.

16. (Previously Presented) The drum type washing machine as claimed in claim 1, wherein the at least one ceramic piece comprises a plurality of ball type ceramic pieces in a plurality of sizes.

17. (Previously Presented) The drum type washing machine as claimed in claim 1, wherein an inside of the at least one ceramic piece comprises an elastic material, and an outside of the at least one ceramic piece is coated with a sintered body including silicon oxide and aluminum oxide.

18. (Previously Presented) A drum type washing machine, comprising:
a tub provided in a cabinet and configured to receive washing fluid therein;
a drum rotatably installed in the tub;

at least one ceramic piece, wherein an interior portion of the at least one ceramic piece is formed of an elastic material, and an exterior portion of the at least one ceramic piece is coated with a sintered body including silicon oxide and aluminum oxide; and

at least one receiver provided on an interior surface of the drum and configured to receive at the at least one ceramic piece therein.

19. (Previously Presented) The drum type washing machine as claimed in claim 18, wherein a cross section of each receiver is substantially semi-circular, and wherein a curved portion of each receiver extends toward a rotational center of the drum, and a flat portion of each receiver is coupled to the interior surface of the drum.

20. (Previously Presented) The drum type washing machine as claimed in claim 18, wherein each receiver comprises:

a housing having an open side configured to receive the at least one ceramic therethrough, wherein the open side is configured to face a corresponding interior surface of the drum when the receiver is coupled thereto, and a circumferential surface comprising a plurality of openings formed therein; and

a cover configured to cover the open side of the housing.

21. (Previously Presented) The drum type washing machine as claimed in claim 20, further comprising a plurality of coupling holes formed in the interior surface of the drum, and a corresponding plurality of hooks extending from the housing so as to engage with respective coupled holes and to couple the receiver to the drum.

22. (Previously Presented) The drum type washing machine as claimed in claim 20, further comprising a guide groove formed along a rim of the open side of the housing, wherein the cover is configured to be slidably inserted into the guide groove so as to couple the cover to the housing, wherein the cover is disposed between the housing and the interior surface of the drum when the receiver is installed in the drum.

23. (Previously Presented) The drum type washing machine as claimed in claim 18, wherein the at least one receiver comprises a plurality of receivers each extending along a longitudinal direction of the interior surface of the drum, and positioned circumferentially in the drum at predetermined intervals.

24. (Previously Presented) The drum type washing machine as claimed in claim 18, wherein the at least one ceramic piece comprises a plurality of substantially spherical ceramic pieces.

25. (New) The drum type washing machine as claimed in claim 1, wherein a length of each rib of the plurality of ribs is based on a corresponding distance between the second side of the cover and the inner surface of the drum at a portion of the second side of the cover from which the rib extends.

26. (New) The drum type washing machine as claimed in claim 25, wherein distal ends of the plurality of ribs are configured to contact the inner surface of the drum when the cover is positioned between the housing and the drum such that the cover exerts a compressive force on the at least one ceramic received in the housing.

27. (New) The drum type washing machine as claimed in claim 26, wherein the cover and the plurality of ribs limit movement of the at least one ceramic received in the housing.